

Guide glossary:

OCCG – Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group – formerly the Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust which ‘buys’ health services using government allowances that are being hugely restricted, forcing OCCG to deliver this plan to provide services with £200million less than it needs to ‘stand still’.

OUHT – Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – the organisation that runs the John Radcliffe, Churchill, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre and Horton General hospitals as well as the Sobell House Hospice. As a foundation trust it is allowed to use up to 49% of its beds and facilities for private patients. We believe this will create a seriously inequitable two-tier system as more people take out medical insurance (because of the changes) and the majority wait for treatment in an increasingly shrunken public NHS service.

CPN – Community Partnership Network – this is the north Oxfordshire stakeholders’ forum that meets every quarter and includes representatives of councils, health watchdogs, the Horton, Banburyshire GPs, Keep the Horton General, MPs and is open to the public and press. The CPN grew out of the Better Healthcare Programme which was a similar group of stakeholders set up to develop the means of protecting Horton services after the recommendation of the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (endorsed by the Secretary of State for Health) that Oxford was too far to humanely and safely transfer sick adults and children and mothers in Labour 25+ miles to Headington.

OTP – Oxfordshire Transformation Plan. This is the countywide plan – currently open to consultation - that is a major part of the BOB STP, the Bucks, Oxon and Berks West Sustainability and Transformation Plan. The OTP seeks to change the way hospital beds are used, treat most patients in care homes or their own homes rather than hospitals, centralise acute care at the John Radcliffe Hospital and meet a shortfall of £134m and save up to £200m. The Horton General Hospital would be downgraded from an acute, inpatient hospital with the six ‘core’ departments (maternity, Special Care Baby Unit, 24-hour children’s ward, trauma, adult medicine and A&E) and become mainly a day centre for outpatients, diagnostics and day case surgery/treatments if the plans go ahead.

STP – Sustainability and Transformation Plan. These are being consulted on this year in 44 NHS regions called ‘footprints’ that have replaced the single National Health Service. The Secretary of State for Health, currently Jeremy Hunt, no longer has responsibility for the NHS. STPs are the final part of the Five Year Forward View, a plan designed by Simon Stevens, CEO of NHS England, which enacts government legislation. It was the Health and Social Care Act 2012 that encompasses these far reaching changes in NHS provision. All STPs have been examined by NHS England to ensure they were written in a language that was most likely to be attractive and accepted by the public.

BOB – Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West. This is the region, or ‘footprint’ that includes Banbury and the Horton. It is the last (44th) and largest footprint and its STP was the last to be published, having run into design difficulties. Its delay has affected the Oxfordshire Transformation Plan which was published late with consultation starting on the same day, giving the public very little time to read and understand it.

IRP – Independent Reconfiguration Panel. This is a body made up of independent people from the medical world and associated services that reviews controversial or doubtful decisions about substantial changes in NHS provision. In 2006, the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals Trust (now OUHT) presented proposals to fully downgrade the Horton. HOSC referred the plan to the Secretary of State who passed on the matter to the IRP, which completed a major review of local health services and recommended that the Horton must retain its core acute services because of the distance involved in transferring acute cases and emergencies to Oxford. That was accepted by the Secretary of State in early 2008. Campaigners hope Oxfordshire

HOSC's referral of the temporary removal of obstetrics in October by the OUHT will result in a similar inspection of the evidence and the same recommendation. The IRP has said it is 'watching the situation'.

HOSC – the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee of Oxfordshire County Council. These councillors are there to scrutinise changes in health care and if they wish, refer major changes they are concerned about, to the Secretary of State for Health. He may pass these to the IRP for review.

KTHG – the Keep the Horton General group. This was first set up as Banbury Health Emergency in 1992 in response to downgrading proposals for the Horton General Hospital. A successful community action group, it was re-named Keep the Horton General and its core committee has maintained its existence to be rekindled any time that the hospital comes under renewed threat.

PCBC – Pre Consultation Business Case – a 238 page document that details some of the thinking behind the proposals but falls short of providing information needed to make a response on Phase 1, because the information for support and future, interconnected service changes are denied public sight until Phase 2 is published, at a date believed to be not before November 2017.